

**EXAMINER AMENDMENT
Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/728,614

Examiner

Michael C. Zarroli

Applicant(s)

WU, JERRY

Art Unit

2839

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the application filed 12/5/03.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 and 3-17.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 12/5/03 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 12/5/03
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

**MICHAEL C. ZARROLI
PRIMARY EXAMINER**



EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Wei Te Chung on 10/8/04.

The application has been amended as follows: **Cancel claim 2 and revise claims 1, 3, 11 and 15 as indicated on the attached pages.**

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The combination in the independent claims especially the locking member side beams up and down moveably hidden between the wings.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The references cited in the PTO-892 all teach and insulative

housing and a locking member but the locking member does not have side beams up and down moveably hidden between wings.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael C. Zarroli whose telephone number is 571-272-2101. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 to 3:30 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, T.C. Patel can be reached on (571) 272-2800 ext 39. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Michael C. Zarroli
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2839

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A cable end connector assembly for mating with a complementary connector, comprising:

an insulative housing comprising a pair of wing portions extending rearwardly from a rear end thereof;

a plurality of contacts received in the insulative housing;

a cable comprising a plurality of conductors electrically connecting with corresponding contacts;

a cover enclosing the rear end of the insulative housing and defining a pair of passages, said wing portions of the insulative housing respectively received in the passages; and

a locking member comprising at a front end thereof a retaining section secured with the insulative housing, a pushing section at a rear end thereof engaged with the pair of wing portions of the insulative housing, and at least one latch portion located on the front end thereof close to the retaining section and adapted for locking with the complementary connector; wherein

the pushing section of the locking member comprises a flat body portion and a pair of side beams extending downwardly from the body portion, and wherein the wing portion of the insulative housing defines a cutout to receive the side beam of the locking member and allow the side beam a restricted up and down movement.

2. (canceled)

3. (currently amended) The cable end connector assembly as claimed in claim [[2]] 1, wherein the side beam forms a spring tab engaged in the cutout

of the wing portion for preventing the pushing section from escaping the cutout.

4. (original) The cable end connector assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein the cover defines a pair of side channels respectively communicating with the passages, and wherein each wing portion forms a guiding projection received in the side channel of the cover for increasing a retaining force between the cover and the insulative housing.

5. (original) The cable end connector assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein the insulative housing defines a pair of grooves, and wherein the retaining section of the locking member comprises a pair of bar portions extending from opposite ends thereof and received in the grooves.

6. (original) The cable end connector assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein the insulative housing defines a slit receiving a middle portion of the retaining portion of the locking member.

7. (original) The cable end connector assembly as claimed in claim 6, wherein the insulative housing defines a first slot communicating with the slit, and wherein the locking member forms a positioning portion extending forwardly from the middle portion of the retaining section and being locked within the first slot.

8. (original) The cable end connector assembly as claimed in claim 6, wherein the insulative housing defines a second slot communicating with the slit, and wherein the locking member comprises a snap portion extending

rearwardly from the middle portion of the retaining section and being locked within the second slot.

9. (original) The cable end connector assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein the cover defines a channel therein, and wherein the locking member comprises a lower tab received in the channel and resiliently abutting against a bottom surface of the channel.

10. (original) The cable end connector assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein the body portion of the pushing section is formed with a plurality of ribs.

11. (currently amended) An electrical connector assembly comprising:
an insulative housing;
a plurality of contacts disposed in the housing;
a cover bound to said housing;
a pair of wing portions formed on one of said housing and said cover, and exposed to an exterior in a vertical direction; and
a locking member attached to at least one of said housing and said cover, said locking member defining about a rear end thereof a pushing section with a pair of side beams thereof and a latch portion about a front end thereof; wherein
said pair of side beams are ~~protectively and~~ up and down moveably hidden between said pair of wing portions, and protectively unexposed to the exterior laterally.

12. (original) The connector assembly as claimed in claim 11, wherein

said pair of side beam includes means vertically engageable with said pair of wing portions.

13. (original) The connector assembly as claimed in claim 11, wherein a cable includes a plurality of conductors connected to the corresponding contacts and enclosed in said cover.

14. (original) The connector assembly as claimed in claim 11, wherein said pair of wing portions are formed on the housing, and said cover defines a pair of passages receiving said pair of wing portions, respectively.

15. (currently amended) An electrical connector assembly comprising:
an insulative housing;
a plurality of contacts disposed in the housing;
a cover bound to said housing;
a pair of passages formed in one of said housing and said cover, and communicating with an exterior in a vertical direction; and
a locking member attached to at least one of said housing and said cover, said locking member defining about a rear end thereof a pushing section with a pair of side beams thereof and a latch portion about a front end thereof; wherein
said pair of side beams are ~~protectively and~~ up and down moveably hidden within said pair of passages, respectively, and protectively unexposed to the exterior laterally.

16. (original) The connector assembly as claimed in claim 15, wherein a cable includes a plurality of conductors connected to the corresponding

contacts and enclosed in said cover.

17. (original) The connector assembly as claimed in claim 15, wherein said pair of passages are formed in the cover.